

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

May 19, 2014

www.op97.org

Important Dates

May 22

Transition Picnic

May 30th

Pool Outing

June 9 (This is a CHANGE)

Completion Ceremony

June 10

Last Day of School (Calendar Change) (Olympic Day)

Transition Picnic

We are aiming to reschedule our transition picnic for this Thursday.

Our students will combine with the other 5th graders with whom they will be attending Brooks Middle School. These are students from Hatch, Whittier, and Lincoln. It should be a very fun afternoon. Students will arrive at Taylor Park 11:45. After eating a sack lunch, they will be divided into small groups with their future classmates. With their groups they will transition through stations featuring fun team-building games. We have around 375 fifth graders attending, so we will be needing plenty of help. We would absolutely love it if you were able to help with set-up, running a station, or clean-up. Hopefully you received a Google Form, as well as a paper Volunteer Slip! To sweeten the deal, the Brooks PTO has generously offered a lunch of Potbelly Sandwiches to all volunteers.

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Custom Typing from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Custom Typing program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is:

<http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - [www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com) Through the month of May, 5th graders have artwork on display at the Oak Park Public Library. In our Art room, we are working on developing a

six-panel comic strip. The strip is autobiographical and will tell a short story of something memorable that happened to us. We are learning about exaggerations and varying camera shots (wide angled scene setters, head and shoulders crops and close-ups) to give our comics some visual impact and to make them fun to read.

Music - This week we will be continuing our Shakespeare project by adding vocals, percussion and effects to our final pieces. 5th Graders have also been given the opportunity to perform with the chorus for part of the song "Happy" at the Chicago Sky game on June 6th. Interested 5th graders will have some lunchtime rehearsals to learn their portion of the song/dance **this Tuesday and Thursday**. I sent students home with information on the event. Students would need to buy tickets for themselves and any guests (parents, etc.) that want to come **by this Friday 5/23**. Please email me at akaria@op97.org for more information.

Chorus - A few announcements/ dates to keep in mind in the weeks to come

The chorus did an awesome job at their concert on Thursday! I hope all those who attended enjoyed it as much as I did. If your child is not involved in the Sky game performance than they are done with chorus for the year and should stay in class at the normal chorus time. It has been a wonderful year!

Our performance with the Chicago Sky is Friday 6/6 in the evening. You should have received a ticket order form which should be dropped off in the PTO mailbox. I did want to specify that students will need to have their own ticket (just like we did for the Wolves last year for those who are returning members). If you cannot accompany your child, please write me. If you are able to provide a carpool for a child, please email me as well. The chorus will perform the first song and then we are hoping to get a lot of other Holmes groups involved in the last number, so I am hoping we get a huge Holmes crowd to support us! **Again please email me at akaria@op97.org if your child cannot make it to the event.**

Spanish - All classes have been viewing and critiquing the imovies and trailers they have created. The students have done an excellent job of summarizing stories, adding sound effects, and emphasizing dramatic moments in the stories. Ask to view the imovie your child created! They are very fun to watch. <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/> .

Library - The narratives for the research project are due this Wednesday, May 7. As a reminder, we are using CultureGrams (provided to us by the OPPL) to research a country. The final piece will be a narrative over an imovie, describing a "day in the life" of a child living in that country. There is an example of the movie and the final narrative on the library page; just click the link below! This project will be completed during library time, so if you have any questions, feel free to email me, mmaneck@op97.org . For more information, the library home page is <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/> .

Physical Education - (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com)

District Dance Unit Xbox 360 (Just Dance 4) is a rap. The kids loved the activity. Fitness and Conditioning activities are now in full swing. We prepare now for our District 97 Fun Run this Saturday; Lindberg Park; 8am. Looking forward to another grand turn from Holmes.

Resource

Ms. Rose has created a new blog for the families of her Resource students. For more information on her activities, please visit: [Ms. Rose- Resource Support](#)

Reading/Literature

This week, students will continue reading *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. Students can access the novel and workbook on our Reading Wiki. They will have an opportunity to identify their favorite

partsx of the story so far. Then, they will work independently to change the events or outcome as they wish..

On Wednesday, students will use their iPads to access Edmodo Snapshot where they will test their proficiency on three of our 5th-grade skills: identifying theme and summarizing a story, comparing and contrasting, and understanding figurative language.

Writing

In writing students will continue to work on their Persuasive Essays.

Math

We have now completed the new material in our curriculum, and we will be reviewing some of the skills and concepts from earlier in the year. This week, we will be reviewing addition and subtraction of fractions and mixed numbers. Students should be working on the Million Dollar project. The objective of this project is to spend as close \$1,000,000 without going over that amount. Project guidelines are posted on the math page of the 5th grade wiki. This project is due June 2. Students will have some time to work on the project during class, but they will be required to work on it as homework as well.

Science

Students will complete their unit test on the human body this week.

Social Studies

In Social Studies students will continue to work on a Persuasive Writing essay. This week students will explore how to appeal to readers. We will learn about appealing to emotion, logic, and experience.

Spelling/Word Study

Students will complete their regular spelling routine this week.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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